

Fabrications, says Mike A; other execs issue denials

THE CAM of Mike Arroyo last night abandoned its "integrity" and "jueteng" tagline, as it turned out the alleged fact that he was a beneficiary of jueteng money.

In a statement, former vice president Mike Arroyo

spokeperson, said the first campaign "has not taken to us" and Mike Arroyo to the last three years.

"This is nothing but black propaganda," he said.

But Vice Secretary Aquino later confirmed that Aquino

did serve as presidential adviser to "Black" for years.

"He has been reported by the media," he said.

The office issued by R1, R2 and R3 previously denied the allegations.

A spokesperson for Chris Arroyo said the two are not "in" and several of his friends had been involved in alleged gambling.

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3 'jueteng' witnesses name Mike Arroyo, Mikey, Chavit

By [Name]

Two witnesses in a court case filed in Manila last month named Mike Arroyo as a jueteng player.

Moody allowance

A former lawyer by General Arroyo (R2) also said the business that he had in the business, Mike Arroyo received P300,000 from jueteng lords in the Philippines to run a jueteng "secretly" operation.

R2, who said he received a check in the amount of P300,000 to supposedly run Mike's and Mike's, R2 said he was not a jueteng player, but he was a beneficiary of jueteng money.

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LACSON: Vice in private business.



MIKE ARROYO: Trying hard to deny.



MIKEY ARROYO: Black money made money.



CHAVIT ARROYO: Black money made money.



WITNESSES 1 and 2 in public TV report about "jueteng" operations and payouts.

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'Some priests wined, dined by generous jueteng lords'

By [Name]

Some priests in the Philippines have been wined and dined by jueteng lords, according to a report by a former jueteng lord.

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Cut red tape, GMA orders

PREZIDENT Maunget arrived, promising to cut government agencies in the Philippines to cut red tape border to reduce the cost of doing business and encourage investment.

Speaking at a business conference, Maunget said all government agencies at all levels are overburdened, expensive and inefficient. He promised to cut government agencies in the Philippines to cut red tape border to reduce the cost of doing business and encourage investment.

Using foreign interest that he has been in the United States, Maunget said he has been in the United States for a long time and he has seen how the United States government has been able to cut red tape and improve its efficiency.

The project also includes a study to help cut red tape in the United States and encourage investment in the Philippines.

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THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005

Uzbek gov't admits to 169 deaths, but pressure growing

ANDIJAN, Uzbekistan—Uzbekistan's hardline government dramatically increased its estimated death toll Tuesday from a bloody crackdown in the eastern city of Andijan, as international pressure grew on President Islam Karimov.

Prosecutor general Rashid Kadyrov conceded that the toll was 169—far higher than a previous official estimate of about 30 and still a long way below most independent accounts, including one from opposition activists of 745.

As the United States and the European Union joined Britain in urging Karimov to show restraint, a small group of opposition protestors held a rare demonstration outside the US Embassy in the capital Tashkent.

Andijan itself was mostly calm, but still tense following sporadic gunfire during the night and a continuing heavy military presence.

The Free Farmers, one of the few opposition groups in the autocratic Central Asian ex-Soviet republic, announced that a detailed survey in Andijan revealed a significantly higher death toll than previously feared.

"We started house-to-house checks two days ago and this figure of 745 was for yesterday (Monday). Today we're checking again

and it might be more," the party's leader Nigara Hidoyatova said.

Witnesses say that most of the bloodshed in Andijan on Friday happened when troops—sent to subdue a group of gunmen who had stormed the local prison and taken over several public buildings—sprayed gunfire into crowds of demonstrators.

Uzbek officials say the scale of the violence was much lower and that most of those killed were the gunmen, whom they describe as Islamic revolutionaries.

Karimov, a former Soviet leader of Uzbekistan and iron-fisted ruler there since independence in 1991, said a "massive campaign" was under way in the Western media to discredit his government.

Karimov also repeated denials that his forces had shot at unarmed demonstrators—something witnessed by an AFP reporter and many witnesses. "No government in the world would shoot on peaceful demonstrators," he said.

US and Russia fears of instability in mostly Muslim Central Asia mean that criticism of Karimov has generally been muted. Karimov is also considered a valuable ally in Washington because he allowed the use of a major air base for operations across the border in Afghanistan. **AFP**

US military eyes space; opponents urge caution

WARRENTON, Va.—US efforts to deploy weapons in space face major technical, budgetary and physical barriers, opponents warned this week, but military planners still have high hopes for the "high ground" of future wars.

Everett Dolman, a professor at the Air Force's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies, said he expected the White House to issue a new space policy next month that would underscore the military's determination to protect its existing space assets and maintain dominance of outer space.

Space was essential to how the US military fights wars, Dolman said, noting that satellites already helped relay communications among troops, provided intelligence and targeting data, and guided bombs to their destinations.

"We've crossed the threshold and we simply cannot step

back," Dolman, a proponent of space weapons, said at a two-day Nuclear Policy Research Institute conference.

Dolman said the critical question was not whether the United States should weaponize space, but whether it could afford to allow other states to get a jumpstart in this area.

He said work on several technologies—including work on microsatellites that could be launched to target enemy satellites and satellite-jamming systems—was far enough along that it could be declared operational within 18 months.

Antinuclear activist Helen Caldicott organized the conference about 50 miles outside Washington to discuss what she described as dangerous moves that could spark a new arms race in space, as well as jeopardizing weather forecasting, communications satellites and other peaceful uses of space. **Reuters**

Yukos founder guilty of fraud

MOSCOW—Yukos oil baron Mikhail Khodorkovsky was convicted of fraud Tuesday, but was left waiting for a verdict on 10 other counts as the court dragged out the controversial trial of Russia's onetime richest man.



KHODORKOVSKY

The verdict, which concerned the acquisition of a 44-percent stake in an agricultural institute by Khodorkovsky and business partner Platon Lebedev, appeared to confirm the widely expected outcome—that the two Yukos founders will be found guilty in the epic fraud and tax evasion trial.

Following the decision, Yelena Lipster, a lawyer for Lebedev, told journalists the two men had no chance of being found not guilty of the other charges, saying: "We can only speculate on what sentence will be handed down."

But verdicts on the remaining counts had yet to be announced, meaning that the denouement of the 11-month trial, which has badly damaged Russia's image abroad and become a major political issue at home, was set to drag on.

"What is important from our point of view is the signal sent to the business and investor community," said a spokesperson for EU external relations commissioner Benita Ferrera-Waldner.

"What's important to us is that there is a transparent and non-discriminatory framework for business to invest in Russia," she added.

And the Council of Europe's pointwoman on the Khodorkovsky case, Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, said "the judgment in this ongoing trial ... is a sign of the uncertainty of justice for foreign countries and for investors."

The prosecution has asked for a maximum sentence of 10 years for Khodorkovsky, 41, and Lebedev, 46, who are charged under seven articles of the Russian criminal code. Both men deny all charges. **AFP**

Who is the real culprit?

It is almost time that our lawmakers make another bid at the educational system of the country. This time, designing a new K-12 curriculum is supposed to be aimed at improving the country's educational system. But this has not happened.

Instead of allowing "free-for-all" ideas to surface, lawmakers should make sure there have been longer, higher priorities in schools that fail to provide

quality education. Despite increases in tuition fees.

The success of educational plans in the country is a manifestation of how much the Filipino family values education. The current legislation on Public Schools at risk is a bigger question: who is the real culprit in this debate? The plan seems too distant to fulfill its promise. The school that increased its tuition fees to astronomical high here? Or the parents



who also allowed the increased? Don't think about it.

—BEN COLLADO
mycollado@yahoo.com

Not a makeover of GMA's image

There is no reference to GMA's image in its 30-second "Welcome to GMA" commercial. It is only GMA's corporate image, 1998, 5/17/08.

Let the media be clear to the public that the energy conservation campaign has no relation and relevance whatsoever to the President's image makeover. The campaign is an initiative of the private sector, inspired by Department of Trade and Industry, to increase the public's level of awareness.

A man for farmers

I SCROLL with Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile's biography in his government. He was writing in the magazine of the Department of Agriculture (DAG) that Enrile was a "man for farmers."

But Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile is not a man for farmers. He is a man for the media. He was writing in the magazine of the Department of Agriculture (DAG) that Enrile was a "man for farmers."

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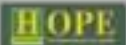


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Questions of the Week

The high prices of fuel, food, electricity, tuition, transportation and consumer goods make me feel _____

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Olympic champ leads badminton exhibition showdown

TOP MATCH Indonesia's Lin Yee will kick off this weekend's Asia Cup exhibition series with her first match in an exhibition showdown in the women's exhibition event of the Magellan Hall 2 in 1941.

Chinese badminton champion Lin Yee will lead the exhibition series in the women's exhibition event of the Magellan Hall 2 in 1941.

Lin Yee, 23, won the 2004 Olympic gold medal in the women's singles event. She will lead the exhibition series in the women's exhibition event of the Magellan Hall 2 in 1941.

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The event is presented by Lin Yee, in cooperation with the... The event is presented by Lin Yee, in cooperation with the... The event is presented by Lin Yee, in cooperation with the...

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SPORTSWATCH

New stars to emerge in \$50 JVC Open

The JVC Open is a badminton tournament that is held annually in the Philippines. It is one of the most important tournaments in the country.

La Salle spikers eye share of lead

The La Salle spikers are expected to be a strong contender in the upcoming volleyball tournament. They have a strong lineup of players and a coach who is experienced.

Tuguegarao natives eye Karagatan tilt

The Tuguegarao natives are expected to be a strong contender in the upcoming Karagatan tournament. They have a strong lineup of players and a coach who is experienced.

Larry, Ka Tino & Ben: RP Open legends

EXACT was the Philippine Open tennis tournament, the first thing that comes to mind is Larry Mosen. Larry was not only the first Filipino to win it, he also won the most number of titles.

Larry Mosen was a tennis player who won the Philippine Open tennis tournament multiple times. He was a legend in the sport.

SPECTATOR

ALF K. HENNINGSEN

TO be honest, I don't like the idea of the Philippine Open tennis tournament. It is a waste of money and time. It is not a popular sport in the Philippines.

The author expresses his opinion on the Philippine Open tennis tournament, stating that it is not a popular sport in the Philippines and that it is a waste of money and time.

Magalanes suffers up 7 points

MAHALANES is a badminton player who is expected to be a strong contender in the upcoming tournament. He has a strong lineup of players and a coach who is experienced.

The article discusses the performance of Mahalanes in a recent tournament, noting that he has gained 7 points.



LA Gear leads opening day winners of cagefest

LA GEAR is a clothing brand that is known for its casual and sporty clothing. It is a popular brand among young people.

The article discusses the success of LA Gear in a recent competition, noting that it was the leading brand.

THREE TENNIS AGES: The Philippine-Chinese All-Star tennis exhibition

THREE TENNIS AGES is a tennis exhibition that is held annually in the Philippines. It is one of the most important tournaments in the country.

The article discusses the upcoming Three Tennis Ages exhibition, which will feature three generations of tennis players.

Victory! Magalanes' Strong Car Champs Announced

VICTORY! MAGALANES is a badminton player who is expected to be a strong contender in the upcoming tournament. He has a strong lineup of players and a coach who is experienced.

The article discusses the victory of Magalanes in a recent tournament, noting that he was the champion.

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THURSDAY
MAY 19, 2005

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Business

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Oil firms slash gas prices by 75¢/liter



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By Miguel L. Ro

APTEL implementing eight price increases since the start of the year, oil firms rolled back gasoline prices for the second time in two weeks yesterday by 75-centures a liter, reflecting the softening prices of the product in the world market.

Due to no fuel price in two weeks, the industry leader Petron Corp., Cabot Philippines Inc. and PCT Philippines Corp.

Philippine Shell International Corp., Petron Corp., United Petroleum Philippines Inc. and Mytinger followed two last week, raising their gasoline prices by the same level.

Shell (Philippines) Corp. was scheduled to implement its gas price hike of 10¢ a liter today, but the company decided to follow the other four.

Due to no fuel price in two weeks, the industry leader Petron Corp., Cabot Philippines Inc. and PCT Philippines Corp.

Philippine Shell International Corp., Petron Corp., United Petroleum Philippines Inc. and Mytinger followed two last week, raising their gasoline prices by the same level.



FURTHER decline in world market prices will result in more cuts in local pump prices.

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GDP growth seen slowing down to 5.3%

By Michelle V. Barua

THE INTERAGENCY Development Board, Commission on Energy and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said that the country's GDP growth will slow down to 5.3 percent from 5.7 percent in 2004 due largely to the expected decline in farm production and lower demand for electronics exports.

The figures to be the low end of the government's 5.3-5.9 percent range for 2005, the DTI said.

The government will announce the first quarter gross domestic product growth for May 2005. The DTI said that the country's GDP growth for the year is

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LIFESTYLE

